(c) if so, whether they have been implemented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The view on some of the recommendations of the Committee is to be taken by the Prasar Bharati, whereas in respect of some others, Government has to take a view. Government is in the process of consulting the Members of the Prasar Bharati Board, representatives of the Staff and Employees Unions etc. before taking a final view on the report. The Report has also been circulated among the Members of the Consultative Committee of MPs attached to Ministry of I and B to seek their views.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Punjabi Programmes on Delhi Doordarshan Centre

844. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of Punjabi programmes put across by Delhi AIR and Doordarshan Centres now that Punjabi alongwith Urdu has been declared as the second official language by the Delhi Administration; and

(b) by when Doordarshan, Delhi would start telecasting news bulletins in Punjabi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati have reported that the present quantum of Punjabi programmes broadcast from Delhi is considered adequate. Prasar Bharati is launching round the clock Punjabi Channel from Jalandhar w.e.f. 5th August 2000.

(b) Regional language news bulletins are telecast from regional kendras and not from Delhi. Therefore, there is no proposal to introduce news bulletin in Punjabi from Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi.

Setting up of Low Power Earth Stations by Doordarshan

845. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan plans to set up low power earth stations in all major cities/towns by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the progress made in this direction, till date·

(c) whether the Doordarshan is financially strong to carry out its plan in stipulated time; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to meet financial resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, at present satellite uplinking facility is available at 23 Doordarshan Centres.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Performance of ongoing Projects of AIR/Doordarshan in Maharashtra

846. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received the performance of ongoing projects of Doordarshan/ AIR and other infrastructure Network in Maharashtra in terms of physical and financial targets set and achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the past three years, year-wise alongwith reasons for slow progress;

(c) the details of new proposals received from the State Government; and

(d) the details of action proposed thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) It has been informed by Prasar Bharti that progress of implementation of ongoing projects of AIR and Doordarshan in different parts of the country including Maharashtra is being reviewed regularly.

(b) Progress of implementation of AIR and Doordarshan projects in Maharashtra during the last 3 years of 9th Plan has generally been satisfactory. Doordarshan has commissioned 3 studio and 28 Transmitter projects during the 9th Plan period. However, AIR had targeted only Mumbai 2nd FM Channel for commissioning during the last 3 years. The project is now ready for commissioning. The details of progress of ongoing projects of AIR and Doordarshan are given in the Statement (*See below*).